

**Attention Medicare customers:**

For the first time, Medicare is offering coverage for prescription drugs.

- Everyone with Medicare is eligible to join a plan regardless of income or health.
- Brand name and generic drugs are covered.
- To obtain Medicare prescription drug coverage you *must* enroll in a plan.

**Dates you should know:**

- November 15, 2005 is the first day you can join a plan.
- January 1, 2006 will be the day that coverage begins for those who join by December 31, 2005.
- May 15, 2006 will be the last day to join a plan without paying a higher premium rate.

If you have Medicare, learn about your new options. Gather information about your current health care and prescription drug coverage, and contact one of the organizations listed below.

**For more information****Medicare**

1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)

[www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)

**Mississippi Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program**

1-800-948-3090

[www.mdhs.state.ms.us/aas\\_info.html#MICAP](http://www.mdhs.state.ms.us/aas_info.html#MICAP)

**“Medicare and You 2006” booklet**

[www.medicare.gov/publications/pubs/pdf/10050.pdf](http://www.medicare.gov/publications/pubs/pdf/10050.pdf)

**Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder**

[www.medicare.gov/MPDPF/Public/Include/DataSection/Questions/Questions.asp](http://www.medicare.gov/MPDPF/Public/Include/DataSection/Questions/Questions.asp)

**Social Security Administration**

Medicare Prescription Drug Plan information

[www.ssa.gov/prescriptionhelp/](http://www.ssa.gov/prescriptionhelp/)

**Extra help and low-income subsidy**

Extra help may be available for individuals with annual household incomes of \$14,355 or less, and couples with combined annual household incomes of \$19,245 or less.

**Social Security Administration**

1-800-772-1213

[www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)

[www.accesstobenefits.org](http://www.accesstobenefits.org)